

*The
Omen
by
Jay
Mahoney*

The Omen

Volume 6, Number 11
December 15, 1995

*** EDITORS ***

Jonathan Land.....Managing Editor
Ben Sanders.....Production Editor
Stephanie Cole.....News Editor
Scott Matz.....Graphics Editor
Emily Belz.....Graphics Editor
Anna Seney....."News" Editor
Josh Brassard.....Section Hate Editor
Amber Cortes.....Music Editor

STAFF

Lauren Ryder.....Is Fullo' Christmas Cheer
Some Chick in Dakin.....Printer Abuse
Rivka Magee.....Probably Hates You

CONTRIBUTORS

Peter Orvetti
Cover by Joy Mahoney

Policy Box!

The Omen accepts from any member of the Hampshire community. We will not edit anything you write, as long as you are willing to be responsible for what you say. Libel, which we personally find amusing and entertaining for countless hours is just not able to be printed in this forum.

Submissions, which includes just about anything involving the Hampshire community in some way (news, opinions, artwork, etc.), are due on Saturday nights at 8:00 to the editor of the section in which you wish to appear, or to Ben Sanders (E-307, box 710), or Jonathan Land (E-311, box 527). We prefer submissions on disk (IBM or HIGH DENSITY Macintosh), although hard copy (on paper, dumbass) is okay as well. Label your stuff well and it will make it back to you with no problem.

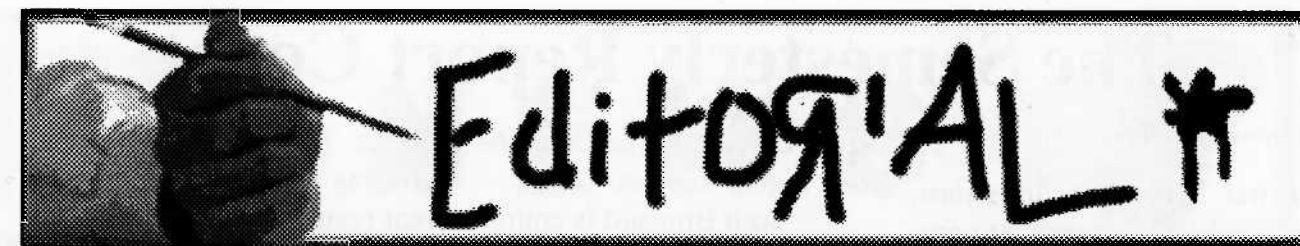
So give us your news, commentary, short fiction, comics, satire, poetry, art, bulletins, questions, and anything else you can think of, and your beloved community rag will dish it back 300 times. What better way to be heard?

"I was on the tour."

-Luther Campbell

CONTENTS

Page 3.....The Omen Shareholder's Report	Page 6.....Letter to the Editors
Page 5.....The Negative Space Cafe	Page 7.....The P.C. Shopper's Guide
	Page 8.....The Omen Wish List



The Omen's Shareholder's Report

The Omen Shareholder's Report - End of Fall 95

Hello good people of Hampshire College. As always, it's that joyous time of the fiscal year where we are required by law (Section 216, Paragraph 2 of Non Satis Screw) to reveal to you, The Omen's stockholders as well as the general public, the financial status of your favorite school paper.

Jonathan Land
Managing Editor
The Omen

I - September.

The large shift in staff went rather smoothly. However, there was trouble right around the corner. Three members of The Omen staff were starting to encounter their mounting legal problems. With Jonathan Land, Ben Sanders, Scott Matz and Lauren Ryder on Housing Probation and (ironically enough) under House Arrest, the two main editors had to bark out the layout orders to anyone willing to follow them at a computer with Pagemaker and Photoshop. Those issues looked remarkably like Newsweek, but that wasn't good enough for Land and Sanders. They snuck outside at 4 A.M. in ninja outfits to layout The Omen

properly.

The campaign of getting unsuspecting first-years to join The Omen by clubbing them over the head (once again, at 4 A.M. in ninja outfits), and dragging them back to The Omen's newly acquired office (a small Phys. Plant closet) was quite successful. Unfortunately the only one to regain consciousness by the time The Omen went to press that week was the Music Editor, Anna Seney.

II - October.

The Omen's first Yard Sale raised \$4280 dollars, but since the yard belonged to someone else, Jonathan Land made an editorial decision to donate the profits to the elderly woman who was shooting at him to get him off her property. The stocks were up 5 3/8th to \$64.30 a share.

Negotiations began with The Phoenix to merge forces. They ended shortly after, yet there was enough e-mail produced between Ben Dryer and Jonathan Land to subsidize the "Dryer/Land Debates" transcript which was sold for four dollars by The Omen Historical Archives. Exact profits have yet to be determined, but they are estimated to be in the thirty to forty dollar range. Copies are still available

through T.O.H.A. by sending a check or money order to Jonathan Land. No credit cards, please.

III - November

Jonathan Land's personal battles with people claiming to represent the Women's Center begin. Coincidentally, many copies of The Omen mysteriously disappear, later to be found mailed to Land, slashed and defaced. Amazingly enough, stocks are still on the rise and are now at \$82.45 a share.

This opportunity is fondled and molested by The Omen who choose to broadcast sonic tidbits of the enforced harassment of Land which were left on his answering machine. One of these soundclip played in the Johnson Library makes a girl cry. She is prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Anna Seney awakens further out of her concussion, and realizes that she wants to write fiction. Omen founder and occasional contributor Stephanie Cole (also on Housing Probation, and under House Arrest), rejoins the staff as News Editor. Amber Cortes is still well sedated as Music Editor.

Late in the month The Omen works in conjunction with

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The Semesterly Report Cont.

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Central Records, Admissions, and a guerrilla art group to produce a Spring 1995 Supplemental Supplement to the 1995/1996 Course Guide. It's a rousing success. Stocks are through the roof at \$472.29 a share.

IV - December. December started with a bang as The Omen received \$2000 (U.S.) dollars in funding from Community Council. The Omen through an emergency "Kick 'em Hard While They're Down" party when they discovered that The Phoenix was denied funding. Beer and Tater-Tots for all.

S i m u l t a n e o u s l y , Jonathan Land became involved with the Publications Lab project started by The Phoenix two-and-a-half years ago. Within two weeks he joined the fray and was able to divert funds to sponsor a performance of the stage adaptation of the film The Last Emperor. Stocks lowered to \$471.21 a share.

Scott Matz discovers how fun Photoshop can be.

Anna Seney, fully conscious steps back from The Omen to pursue her pursuits.

Amber Cortes begins to come-to, but new enforcer, and Matz's silent partner Emily Belz cold clocks her.

Rivka Magee offers to do muuuuuuch neeeeeedeed proooooofreeding, but Land and Ben Sanders always forget to let

Rivka check out The Omen before it goes to press.

Josh Brassard is entirely consistent, and Ben Sanders is consistently entire. They make a great team, but unfortunately they don't work together.

Speaking of Sanders, he and Stephanie Cole (amongst others) are finally brought up on CRB charges. Do the first amendment proud kids.

V - The Future. In January Term, The Omen will begin featuring it's bi-weekly Student Activities Calendar insert. The planning itself (with it's first edition appearing in Volume 6, Issue 11) has created a buzz bringing the stock back up to \$782.17 a share. The Publications Lab is projected to be opened by the end

of Jan. Term. While aiding and creating a "safe space" for current regular publications, it will hopefully be a good opportunity for products like Detritus and Synesthesia to be published more frequently, and to allow The Phoenix to print that lucrative sixth issue of the semester.

In the Spring semester you can look forward to The Omen's Historical Archive which will feature issues from the first four volumes of The Omen, a stick figure art gallery, a cultural reference guide, and much, much, much, much, more.

Thank you very much, and let's make this semester the best event of the fiscal quarter,

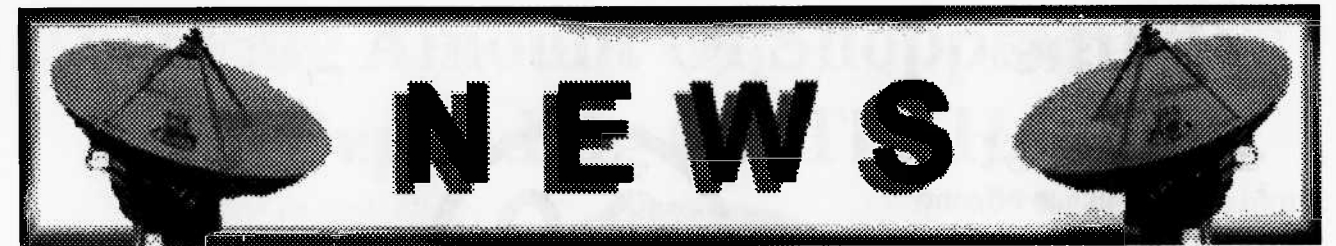
Barry Katz, C.P.A.

Open for JanTerm...

The Negative Space Cafe



Hours of operation in Jan Term,
aren't determined yet.
In the Prescott Tavern



Negative Space

December 10—NEGATIVESPACECAFE. Their(our) Espresso machine cost \$2,400. What does this mean? For the love of Mike, people, get off your asses and drink some coffee.

Purchased second-hand from Omar Coffees in Hartford, Conn., the Espresso machine is just one of the many new aspects of this latest incarnation of The Tavern. Along with Latte, Cuppacino, Mochacino, Hot Chocolate, and (if you ignore the funny looks you get) milk, one can get Espresso in Div I, II, and III sizes (sm, med, large). To go with your beverage, the Cafe offers a variety of cheesecake, cookies, bagels, and Atkin's doughnuts.

To economize, one can opt for the prefabricated selections offered by the Cafe. Among the creative combinations of fare you can order: The Jesse Glick Threshold Special (Div III Cuppacino, 2 doughnuts, 3 Thin Mints), The Two-Course Option (Div I Coffee, 2 doughnuts), The Officer Doughnut (3 doughnuts, large coffee), The 5-Year Plan (Bagel with cream cheese, cuppacino), and the Financial Aid Package (Earl Grey Tea, 1 stale bagel). At \$2.75, The Threshold might be a little pricey, but over-

all, one can afford the Negative Space cuisine by feeling around the underside of a couch.

Food, however, does not a Cafe make. With the lackluster space of The Tavern running neck and neck with SAGA for the Hampshire "down-home ambiance" award, why do people visit the Negative Space? "It's really bright in here," commented Jesse Recinos, apropos of nothing. "I wanted to study," said Hans Schwartz, "but I didn't want to study hard. So I came here." With these two constituting exactly 50% of the Cafe's clientele at 9:30 on a Sunday night, one can observe that drawing in the crowds, as always at Hampshire, will be an uphill battle. But the Tavern's managers are optimistic.

"Wait until Jan Term," said Hazel Elgart, a Cafe founder, apologizing for the Cafe's appearance. Planning to utilize the Cafe's furniture budget and a good bit of community charity, Elgart mentioned that the acquisition of furnishings is high on the managers' priority list. Red tape abounds, however, since fire codes require that all furniture be fire-proof.

One of the main objectives of the Cafe's creators is that the

Cafe be infused with some permanence. They would like to see it remain a space for students to congregate, eat, drink, work, and be entertained. Plans are in the works for designated study nights, when the Cafe will be quiet. Entertainment nights, with COCA sponsoring the weekly use of sound equipment for louder shows, are planned as well. Anyone interested in performing can contact Freyja Balmer, who has volunteered to head up the entertainment arrangements.

Currently, all the Cafe's workers are volunteers, at least one of whom (Elgart) is getting her community service requirement taken care of by her work on the project. Recognizing the need for more employees, however, the Cafe will soon be considering ways in which to acquire more workers. One idea is to put employees on a percentage, taking home a certain amount of each evening's take. Another idea would be to see if interested students could negotiate their advisor's into buying the community service idea. Anyone interested can contact Hazel Elgart, Dan Gregor, or Chris Deliso.

Students who step forth to

Continued on next page

To the Editors:

I would like to offer my thanks to Dean of Students, Tom Levitan, for his tenure here. Tom has been a stabilizing presence in this community at a time when it has been sorely needed. I've worked with Tom on several occasions, and I always found him to be fair, honest, and uncondescending in his discussions with students. He has been genuinely interested in the affairs and views of all members of the community, and in the philosophy that made Hampshire College a unique and important institution. I wish Tom all the best. Hampshire is saying goodbye to a key member of the community; I am saying goodbye to a friend.

Peter Orvetti F92

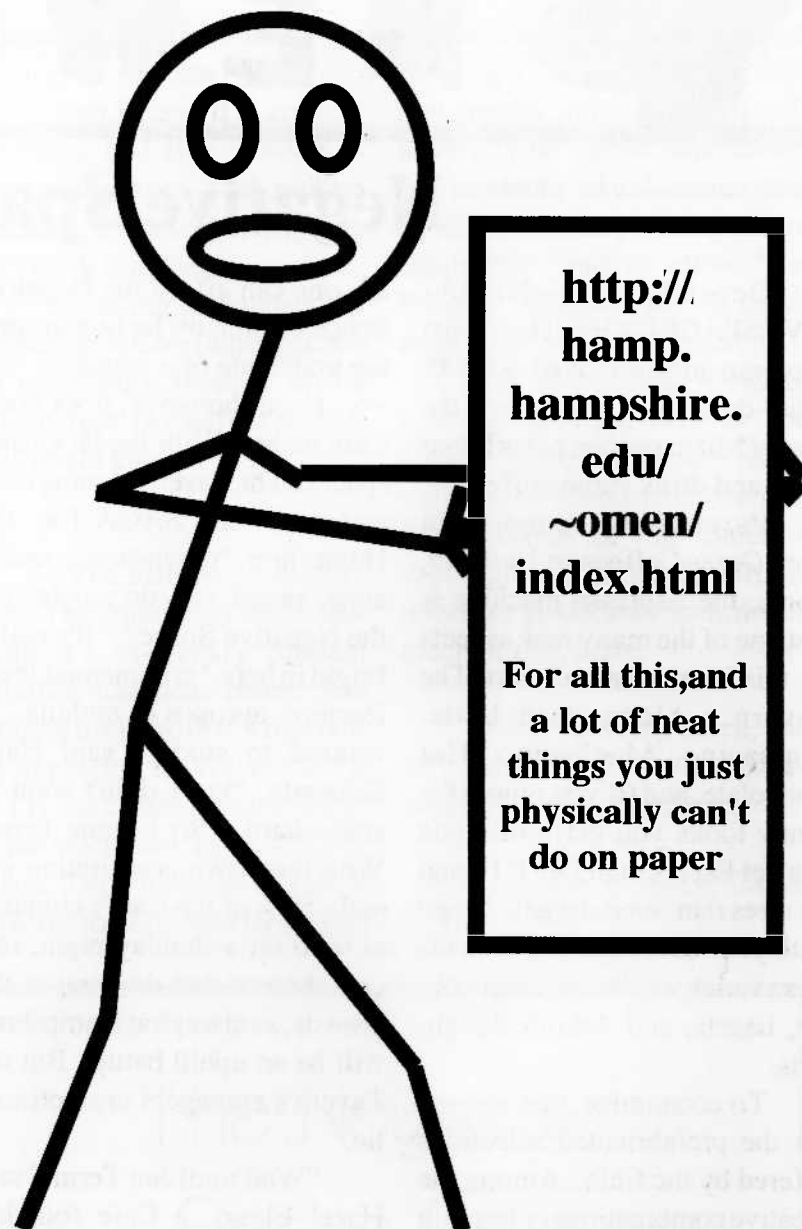
Neg. Space Cont.

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work at the Cafe will provide for an extension of its hours. This will generate more interest in the Cafe. Dedication on the part of it's founders has put the Cafe on steady footing for the upcoming semester. And, while I will mention that the Thin Mints they sell are NOT from the Girl Scouts, the place has a decent shot at survival.

So drink some latte, Jed.

Stephanie Cole
News Editor



**Old Fashioned
Home Cleaners**
caringly thoughough
dependably efficient
free estimates
call Susan
413-534-7454

Varying Amount Of Shopping Days Left (Depending On The Holiday).

Christmas is fast approaching. It's time to bring out the decorations...but wait, did you realize that all those old trimmings are just perpetuating the patriarchal rape-culture that is responsible for thousands of years of male-dominated slaughter and oppression? What kind of atmosphere is that for children? With our line of culturally sensitive Christmas decorations we can help you enjoy the holiday season without demeaning all of humankind in the process.

-Red Ribbon Wreath
\$ 49.95

-Safe Sex Stockings
\$ 34.99

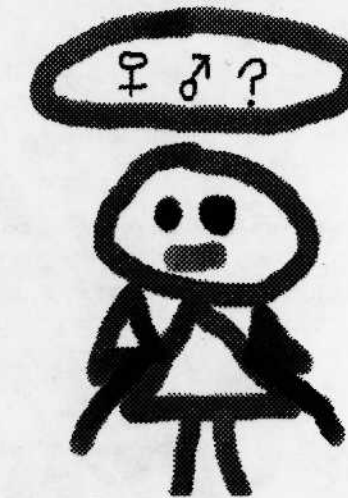
-Tofu Turkey
\$ 5.99 per Lb.

-Free-Range
Reindeer
\$ 29.95 per Lb.

-Working Woman Ms.
Claus and Lesbian Lover
Lawn Decorations
\$ 549.99 for the pair

-Bisexual angel
\$ 329.99

-Sensitive New Age
Santa. Instead of saying the possibly offensive "Ho Ho Ho" he says "Hello, womyn forced to sell her body on the streets because you live in an oppressive patriarchy which reduces you to an



object."
\$ 1,299

-Multi-cultural snow
dye - Dreaming of a White
Christmas may have been
acceptable a 30 years ago,
but we realize that the ground
shouldn't be as white as
Hampshire's student body.
By using our patented new
multi-colored dye pellets
(Sponsored by the Lemelson
program) your lawn will be
the epitome of racial
harmony.

\$ 84.99 for set of 96 colors.

We also carry an extensive
line of 90's budget gifts. Don't
embarrass yourself by giving the
grandchildren a Barbie Doll.

-Healing Crystals
\$ 14.99

-Nose Rings
\$ 9.99

-"Jagged Little Pill"
by Alanis Morissette
\$ 16.99 CD/ \$10.99 Cass.

-Tattoo Kits
\$ 14.95

-Gift Certificates for
Therapy
**\$ 250.00 a visit for four
visits**

-Dream Catchers (or
any other Native American
craft)
24 beads

Lauren Ryder
(Suggested Retail Prices
by Jonathan Land)

Merry Mo' Fo' Christmas



The Omen

Asks you this holiday season:

Would someone please



?

The Phoenix Format: Whaddya Think?

Maybe you've heard about it -- the Newspaper Price Crisis. The price of newsprint, which we used to use, has jumped by about 20% since last May. While paper, the stuff this issue is printed on, used to cost about the same as newsprint, Newsprint is high-quality paper that holds ink well, but is not bleached. Most white papers are bleached, but are not designed to hold ink very well. We are looking for a paper that is as cheap as normal white paper, but holds ink like newsprint. For the time being, we are forced to print on standard sized white paper. We have also switched printers. We used to use a private printer, Turkey Publications, to print our tabloid-sized newspaper issues. Now we use Phoenix's offset press, which charges much less, and is equipped to use white paper.

The problem is that the Phoenix press can only print full pages of 11" x 17". Our old broadsheets were 22" x 17". With this issue we are experimenting with a larger, bound format, which provides the same amount of space as the old broadsheets, but is really 11" x 17" pages bound together to make a "book." The past few weeks we were using 11" x 17" paper folded over to make a booklet, each page being 8 1/2" x 11". The larger format is easier to lay out; however, the smaller format is slightly cheaper.

In order to decide which format to use, we need your input. We have gotten some positive feedback about the small, booklet size Phoenix, as well as some complaints. Cast your vote below for either the little (8 1/2" x 11") or big (11" x 17") Phoenix. Some issues to think about are: the smaller version uses space less efficiently; the smaller version is less practical in terms of advertising; the smaller version is more convenient in terms of size, but the larger version uses less paper; production of the smaller version is slightly cheaper, but the extra paper involved in printing adds up. The problem is the larger debt.

If you have any other comments about Phoenix production (like recycling advice; more photos, etc.) please write them down on a separate sheet.

☐ Recycle

☐ Burn

To: PHOENIX, On-campus mail